

Campaign for Oregon's Seniors & People with Disabilities

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<http://goo.gl/86kvfK>

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AARP Oregon

Advocacy Coalition of Seniors
and People with Disabilities

Alzheimer's Association
Oregon Chapter

Brain Injury Association of Oregon

Disability Services Advisory Council of
Clackamas County

Elders in Action Commission

Governor's Commission
on Senior Services

Impact Northwest

Independent Living Resources

LeadingAge Oregon

Long Term Care Advisory Committee

Making Oregon Vital for Elders
(MOVE)

Multnomah County Disability
Services Advisory Council

National Multiple Sclerosis Society,
Oregon Chapter

O4AD (Oregon Association of Area
Agencies on Aging and Disabilities)

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Oregon Alliance for Retired
Americans

Oregon Health Care Association

Oregon State Council for
Retired Citizens

Oregon Transit Association

Parkinson's Resources of Oregon

Save Oregon Seniors

Seniors Serving Oregon Coalition

Service Employees International
Union

United Seniors of Oregon

Urban League of Portland

The Campaign Urges Support for Elder Abuse Resource Prosecutor

The Campaign for Oregon Seniors and People with Disabilities supports the Oregon Department of Justice's proposal for an Elder Abuse Resource Prosecutor. We believe this Prosecutor will lead to improved enforcement of the laws that protect some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Elder abuse is a very serious issue in Oregon. Every year an estimated 2.1 million older Americans are victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. About 30,000 reports of potential abuse were made in 2013 in Oregon. That may just be the tip of the iceberg, as experts believe that for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported, as many as five cases go unreported.

Elder abuse cases are often more challenging for prosecutors, as the victims often have relationships with the person perpetrating the crimes. That frequently leads to a reluctance to report abuse, a reluctance to cooperate with investigations, and often even prevents the recognition that they are being abused. As these issues are so complicated, having expertise in the DOJ to assist with prosecuting these cases will help local prosecutors perform their jobs more effectively.

We respectfully urge you to support funding the Elder Abuse Resource Prosecutor at the Oregon Department of Justice. Thank you for your consideration of this request.